

Message Text

PAGE 01 ROME 13420 041643Z

71

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

----- 026353

R 041520Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2172

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 13420

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, IT

SUBJECT: EUROPEAN DEFENSE UNITY

REF: ROME 13132

1. AS REFTEL INDICATES, ITALIANS HAVE FOR SOME TIME SUPPORTED UTILIZING THE WEU AS A FORUM TO ENTICE FRENCH INTO MEANINGFUL DEFENSE POLICY DISCUSSIONS WITH THE IDEA THAT IT MIGHT SERVE AS THE NUCLEUS FOR EVENTUAL EUROPEAN DEFENSE UNITY. ITALIAN PREFERENCE FOR WEU HAS HERETOFORE BEEN PREDICATED ON BELIEF THAT FRANCE WOULD NOT AGREE TO BECOME ASSOCIATED WITH EUROGROUP OR ANY OTHER FORUM WITH NATO COLORATION.

2. EMBOFF, IN DECEMBER 3 CONVERSATION WITH DA RIN (MFA NATO OFFICE CHIEF), TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO REFER TO RECENT FRENCH AND GERMAN PRONOUNCEMENTS ON QUESTION OF EUROPEAN DEFENSE UNITY AND TO INQUIRE AS TO ITALIAN INTERPRETATION THEREOF. EMBOFF COMMENTED THAT HE HAD BEEN STRUCK BY RECENT INDICATIONS THAT FRENCH MAY BE RETHINKING ENTIRE SUBJECT AND THAT WE SHOULD NOT ENTIRELY RULE OUT SOME TYPE OF FRENCH AFFILIATION WITH THE EUROGROUP. HE ADDED THAT FRENCH CONCERN OVER BEING LEFT OUT OF THE EUROGROUP'S ARMS PROCUREMENT COOPERATIVE EFFORTS MIGHT WELL CAUSE A FRENCH REASSESSMENT, PARTICULARLY IF THE FRG REMAINS FIRM IN ITS RESERVATIONS OVER THE WEU.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 13420 041643Z

2. DA RIN SAID IT WAS STILL TOO EARLY TO PREDICT WHAT THE FRENCH WILL ULTIMATELY DECIDE. THE GOI POSITION ON THE MATTER IS FLEXIBLE, HE EMPHASIZED. THE ITALIANS ARE NOT WEDDED TO THE WEU CONCEPT. INDEED, THEY WOULD GLADLY SUPPORT THE EUROGROUP

AS THE VEHICLE FOR DEFENSE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE FRENCH, AS IT
MORE CLOSELY ACCORDS WITH THE ITALIAN POSITION THAT PROGRESS IN
EUROPEAN UNITY SHOULD BE MADE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE EXISTING
ATLANTIC PARTNERSHIP. VOLPE

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER S/S-O,MISS. ELTZ. 11/04/73

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 10 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: mcintyresh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973ROME13420
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750029-1780
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731256/abqcegyt.tel
Line Count: 63
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ROME
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: ROME 13132
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: mcintyresh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16-Jul-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <10-Sep-2001 by mcintyresh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EUROPEAN DEFENSE UNITY
TAGS: PFOR, IT, NATO
To: STATE INFO BONN
LONDON
PARIS
NATO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005